

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 FRB-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04

OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02 OMB-01 /065 W

----- 014903

R 050559Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3549

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 1454

DEPT PASS LABOR, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

E O 11652 N A

TAGS ECON, BGEN

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF CHANGE TO WEIGHTING OF UMSM

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

1. CHIEF ECONOMIST JOHN MACLEOD OF CONZIC RIOTINTO OF AUSTRALIA LTD(CRA), ONE OF LARGEST MINING COMPANIES IN AUSTRALIA, REQUESTED POST TO OBTAIN FOR HIM AN OFFICIAL EXPLANATION OF CHANGE IN WEIGHTING OF COMPONENTS OF U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) WHICH HE BELIEVES TOOK EFFECT IN FIRST QUARTER CY 76. HE UNDERSTANDS THIS WAS PERIODIC EXERCISE DESIGNED AT UPDATING INDEX TO REFLECT MORE ACCURATELY PRESENT PATTERN OF CONSUMER SPENDING. HIS COMPANY HAS A CONTRACT "WITH A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT" WHICH USES CPI OF EARLY 1970 AS YARDSTICK GOVERNING AN INFLATION CLAUSE. TO IMPLEMENT THIS CLAUSE, HE NEEDS COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS SHOWING LINKAGE OF NEW TO OLD INDEX AND WANTS TO KNOW WHAT EFFECT, IF ANY, DOES NEW CPI MIX/WEIGHT HAVE ON RELATIVE RATE OF U.S. INFLATION SINCE 1970.

2. ACTION: POST REQUESTS BLS CABLE INFORMATION

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REQUESTED OR SUMMARY THEREOF, WITH TEXT OF ANY AVAILABLE

OFFICIAL EXPLANATION OF CHANGE TO CPI DESCRIBED ABOVE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DATA, PRICE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MELBOU01454  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760301-1173  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2004 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF CHANGE TO WEIGHTING OF UMSM CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
**TAGS:** ECON, BGEN, AS, US, CONZIC RIOTINTO OF AUSTRALIA LTD, (MACLEOD, JOHN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006